

# THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

No. 23. VOL. III.]

WASHINGTON, JUNE 7, 1817.

[Vol. I. for 1817.]

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY, BY JOEL K. MEAD, AT FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

## THE BOSTON WEDDING.—VIVE LA BAGATELLE!

We are not, as our readers well know, much in the habit of noticing weddings; but that of the honorable Jonathan Russell has really made such a noise in the *beau monde*, that we had resolved to say something about it at the very first good opportunity. As the President of the United States is now on his journey eastward, and of course all the office seekers and quidnuncs will be looking that way, without once thinking of Washington City, we shall take the opportunity which the interval offers of just dropping a few words concerning this famous wedding.

It was, it seems, contrary to old fashioned Yankee notions, announced a day beforehand that it would take place at a certain church or chapel in Boston, whither the bride repaired, as the prying and curious say, *en pantalon*. How the gentlefolks found that out, you may, friendly reader, judge for yourself. But we have not the least doubt, that if madame wore pantaloons on that occasion, it was merely as a mark of spirit, from a desire to show that she asserted the prerogative of all maidens to the last, and that she would not surrender the *rule* and the *roast*, until she was absolutely compelled to do so by pronouncing that fatal word *obey*, so sternly insisted on by the rites of old mother church, and did not arise from any design in her, as some have wickedly insinuated, of turning *Turk*.

How this business of wearing pantaloons by the lady could produce a charge of anti-republicanism against Mr. Russell, we cannot divine. There used to be, to be sure, some people in France, some twenty-odd years ago, who passed for prodigious republicans, who were denominated *sans culottes*; they, nevertheless, afterwards turned imperialists under Napoleon; and now, we presume, wear pantaloons under the Bourbons, if they can get them; but this circumstance seems to have no direct reference to the subject before us.

And then, how is it proved that there are any politics whatever in wearing pantaloons? There was, we grant, something of that sort in the decoration of the horse-tails, which took place at the same time;—that is, as it is reported; for, reader, we saw not those tails;—because, as horse-tails are notoriously used as ensigns by the Turkish cavalry;—and hence the term *bashaw* of so many tails, or standards;—it was going pretty far

upon an attempt to establish Turkish influence among us, and with it all the infernal impostures of that arch knave Mahomet: and, moreover, d'ye see, who so likely, after British influence and French influence have vanished, to establish an influence among us as the Grand Seigneur? As we yield a little on account of the horse-tails, we shall expect an equal liberality about the pantaloons. We have tried over and often to find aristocracy in them. Queen Elizabeth, who was a pretty high-toned aristocrat, never, we believe, wore any: at least, if she did, the fact has not been recorded on the pages of faithful history.

But let us put the question to a man just upon the point of being married. Suppose the lady had insisted on wearing them, *for that day only*? How could he refuse it? If he had, he would have been pronounced a barbarous creature by every damsel in Christendom—

“For, when a lady's in the case,

“You know all other things give place.”

After all the noise about this affair, we really have some doubts whether it is a matter of any great consequence. Besides, how will you please every body? Does a lady wear a thin dress? Every motherly and prudent dame cries out shame! and, smouching up her mouth, wonders the husband is not ashamed of herself. Is a lady clad thickly and comfortably?—like Mrs. Russell, for instance—why, that, you see, is wrong too; and so the lady, perhaps, was right to consult her own taste, and please herself.

We have always disliked the fashion of considering principles as depending upon dress or pictures. It gives great scope for evil-minded statesmen to fix the attention of the people on the dress or pictures, whilst they are cheating them out of their rights. There was one period of the French revolution when a man's life was in danger if he did not wear a tri-colored cockade:—And then, how odious to be guilty of giving an acquaintance the name of Monsieur, or Mr.—It was too aristocratic! Nothing would answer but citizen! What has become of all this precious mummer? Let us not deceive ourselves; but take a little advice from the plain Shandyism of Sterne, who tells us, as we believe (quoting from memory only) through the mouth of uncle Toby, that if a man behaves himself properly in this world, God Almighty will never inquire whether he went to Heaven in a red coat or a black one; and so, we think, it may be said of public men of all parties; for if they do their duty

to the state, it is of but little consequence how they fashion their dress. We began in merriment, let us conclude seriously, with Hamlet—

- “Tis not alone my inkv cloak, good mother,
- “Nor customary suits of solemn black,
- “Nor windy suspiration of forc’d breath,
- “No, nor the fruitful rivers in the eye,
- “Nor the dejected ‘havior of the visage,
- “Together with all forms, modes, shows of grief,
- “That can denote me truly. These, indeed, seem,
- “For they are actions that a man might play;
- “But I have that within, which passeth show;
- “These but the trappings and the suits of woe.”

### FIRST REPORT

FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

[From a London paper.]

The select committee appointed to inquire into, and state, the income and expenditure of the United Kingdom, for the year ended the 5th of January, 1817, and also to consider and state the probable income and expenditure (so far as the same can now be estimated) for the years ending the 5th of January, 1818, and the 5th of January, 1819, respectively, and to report the same, together with their observations thereupon, from time to time, to the house, and also to consider what further measures may be adopted for the relief of the country from any part of the expenditure, without detriment to the public interest,

Having had under their consideration the state of various offices in the United Kingdom, which are commonly, though incorrectly, known under the general denomination of sinecures, conceive that they cannot better discharge the duty imposed upon them by the latter part of the order of reference, than by bringing under the early notice of the house, the annual charge incurred by the continuance of offices, either wholly useless, or the salaries of which appear disproportionate to their actual duties; and of the system which they submit as fit to be substituted in their stead.

The subject is by no means new to the house, having been brought under discussion at various times within the last ten years, and particularly in the session of 1812, when it was made the foundation of a bill, which having passed the house, was carried to the house of lords on the 17th June, and in the sessions of 1813, when the same bill was carried to the house of lords on the 5th of April.

The classification of the several offices, and some of the provisions of that bill, are followed and referred to in the course of this report, as the most convenient mode of conducting the inquiry relating to them.

The object of your committee was to ascertain, first, what offices may be reduced or regulated (after the expiration of the existing interest) without detriment to the public service. Secondly, under what regulations such of those offices, as it may be deemed proper to continue, ought to be administered after the expiration of the existing interests. Thirdly, as it is obvious, that whenever such regulations and reductions as are contemplated by your committee shall be carried into effect, the means of rewarding meritorious public service will be in a great measure taken from the crown, your committee deem it indis-

pensable that provision should be made for enabling the crown, under proper regulations and restrictions, to afford a reasonable recompense for the faithful discharge of high and effective civil offices.

### OFFICES IN ENGLAND.

The view which your committee have taken of the two offices of chief justice in Eyre, North and South of Trent, is, that they may be abolished without detriment to the public service, and the emoluments thereof become a future saving to the public; regard being had in these, as well as in every other office which forms the subject of this report, to the existing interest.

In the exchequer, reasons of a like nature exist for dealing in the same manner with the offices of auditor of the exchequer, clerk of the pells, four tellors of the exchequer; so that whenever vacancies shall occur in any of them, the salary payable to the principal in such office shall cease, and become a saving to the public. Warden of the Cinque Ports, governor of the Isle of Wight: the same rule applies to these two offices, so that the salaries payable at the exchequer, or out of any public funds, may cease; and become a future saving to the public.

Commissary general of musters. This office may be abolished without inconvenience to the public service.

Joint paymaster general. The office of one of the joint paymasters may also be abolished, being wholly inefficient and useless, with regard to all business connected with the army; but it must be recollected that an effective and very important situation without salary has been frequently held, and is now held by one of the joint paymasters; for the discharge of which your committee do not consider the salary of 2,000*l.* at present attached to the office of second paymaster, as more than adequate; but they submit to the house, that it will be more consistent with the system which they wish to introduce, that the vice president of the board of trade should receive a salary as such, than be paid indirectly as one of the joint paymasters general.

One deputy paymaster general. The office of paymaster general being recommended to be executed by one person, it follows of course, that one deputy in the office will be sufficient; and that the salary now received by the second deputy should be saved.

There are no longer any deputy paymasters abroad acting by deputy; and the duties of all the deputy paymasters themselves, during peace, are transferred to the commissariat.

The office of paymaster of marines is now discharged in person; under regulations adopted in 1813, without any deputy allowed, or paid by the public; but as some farther inquiries may be necessary before your committee can finally report upon it, they defer their observations until the estimates for the navy shall come before them, with which this office is immediately connected.

Upon the office of paymaster of widow's pensions, although no strong objections occur to your committee against uniting it with the foregoing office, yet so long as it continues at the low scale of expense at which it is now fixed, it does not seem expedient to recommend any alteration for the purpose of effecting a saving, which would, if any, be very inconsiderable. The annual charge is no more than 680*l.* and ample security is taken, amounting to 20,000*l.* for the money in charge,

and for the punctual payment of nearly 70,000*l.* in very small sums, to 2,200 widows, scattered over every part of the United Kingdom, and many of them residing abroad. It must be further observed, that though the salary of this office, having been formerly paid out of the produce of old stores, is now annually voted in the naval estimate, yet the appointment is not vested in the crown, but in the governors of this charity.

Law clerk in the secretary of state's office. It appearing that no duties whatever are annexed to this office, your committee recommend that it should be altogether abolished.

Collector and transmitter of state papers. The same observation applies as to the last office.

The inconsiderable offices of the principal housekeeper, and warehouse-keeper in the excise office, established messenger in the war office, and some others included in the table of the bill of 1812 and 1813, were at that time held as sinecures; with regard to these, it is sufficient to lay down as a rule, that no person in future should be allowed to hold any inferior office of this description without performing the duty in person; and where no duty is attached (as in the case of cartaker to his majesty) all such nominal offices should be suppressed.

The offices of joint post-master general in England and Ireland do not appear to your committee to come under the general description of those which form the subject of this report; they are, therefore, not prepared at present to suggest to the house any alteration in the mode of conducting this important department of the public service. If, on the one hand, they are strongly of opinion that it would be inexpedient to place this branch of the public revenue under the direction of a board, with a constitution similar to that of other revenue boards, as recommended by the finance committee of 1797, in their seventh report; on the other hand they are by no means prepared to state an opinion that the management of the post-office, amounting in England to a gross receipt of 2,116,087*l.* and involving an expenditure of 593,626*l.*; and amounting in Ireland to a gross receipt of 230,000*l.* and involving an expenditure of 148,000*l.* together with the complicated concerns by which this department is connected with the convenience of the community, and the commercial interest of the empire, can, without disadvantage, be permanently confided to one individual.

Your committee have learnt with satisfaction, that by the last indenture of the mint, the office of clerk of the mints has been merged in that of the superintendent of the machinery, which is a very necessary and effective office; and that it is provided by the same indenture, that the office of comptroller of the mint should, at the termination of the present existing interest, be executed in person by the present deputy, at the salary which he now receives, thereby effecting a saving of the salary and emoluments of the principal. The office of warden of the mint, it is understood, will, in like manner, be discontinued; as well as every other office in this department, which comes within the principle of regulation or abolition, which it is the object of your committee to extend to all offices of this description.

Clerk of the parliaments. Your committee recommend that this office should be abolished; and that the fees, if continued, should be appropri-

ated towards defraying the sessional expenses of the house of lords.

Four clerks of the signet, and four clerks of the privy seal. Your committee are not aware of any detriment which can accrue to the public service from discontinuing these offices, the duty of which is executed by deputy.

Comptroller general of accounts, excise, and inspector general. These offices being connected with the collection and management of the revenue, and having no efficient duties, ought of course to be abolished.

Register of commissioners of excise; inspector general of coffee and tea, &c. and all other offices, whether enumerated in the table to the bill of 1813, or not, the duties of which are connected with the collection and receipt of the public revenue, ought, in the opinion of your committee, to be abolished, so far as the salaries of those offices are payable to individuals who do not execute in person the efficient duties of such offices.

#### SCOTLAND.

Keeper of the great seal. Your committee recommend that this office should be preserved; but the salary regulated, so as not to exceed 2,000*l.* per annum.

Keeper of the privy seal. In recommending that this office should be continued, a salary of 1,000*l.* a year appears to be sufficient.

The office of lord justice general. Your committee recommend, that after the termination of the existing interest in this office, the president of the court of sessions for the time being, should assume the title, rank, and privileges of lord justice general, and that the salary now annexed to this office should be discontinued.

Keeper of the signet. All the duties of this office may be annexed to that of lord register, and the fees should be carried to the public account; and with respect to the office of lord register, a fixed salary of 1,500*l.* a year appears to be an adequate provision.

Knight marshal. The office to be retained, but the salary discontinued. Vice admiral ditto.

Governor and other officers in the mint may be abolished. The buildings of the mint in Scotland should be disposed of in such manner as may appear to the lords of the treasury most advantageous to the crown.

Receiver general of bishops' rents, auditor of exchequer, assistant surveyor general of taxes, comptroller general of customs. These offices may be abolished.

The cashier and receiver general of excise. Your committee cannot too strongly express their opinion that this office ought to be executed in person; and even taking into consideration the amount of the security required, which is stated to be 30,000*l.* they are of opinion that a salary of 1,000*l.* a year would be ample to insure the regular attendance of a responsible person competent to give security to that amount.

Three old inspectors of wheel carriages, gazette writer, and inspector general of roads, are offices to be abolished; the last being added to this list as included in the army estimates.

#### IRELAND.

Clerk of the pells, teller of the exchequer, and auditor general. The necessary duties attached to these offices must continue to be performed, but the salary and emoluments now receivable by the principals should become, as in the English exchequer, a saving to the public.



Keeper of the privy seal. This office is now held for life; but it should, after the termination of the existing interest, be granted during pleasure only, and always annexed to the office of chief secretary to the lord lieutenant.

Surveyor general of crown lands; keeper of records, Birmingham Tower; keeper of the records of parliament; clerk of the paper office.

These officers have charge of public documents, which may be transferred to the building which has been constructed for the custody of the public records of Ireland; and the several appointments above enumerated may be abolished.

Accountant to the board of general officers; secretary to ditto; corrector and supervisor of his majesty's printing press; compiler of the Dublin Gazette; master of the revels; seneschal of his majesty's manors; accountant general (an office paid from the civil list); supervisor of accounts, barrack department; barrack master of the royal barracks.

These offices may be abolished, or if in any instance they have powers or functions attached to them, which it is necessary to retain, they may be transferred to other effective offices, without any addition whatever to their emoluments; as the transfer cannot impose any additional labor, or responsibility.

Constables of the castles of Limerick, Dublin, and Castlemain.

The salary payable to these officers out of the civil list should become a saving to the public. The offices may, if necessary, be retained without salary.

Clerk of the council; muster master general (held by two persons); pratique master of the port of Dublin; storekeeper of the customs.

The duties attached to these offices ought to be discharged in person by those who hold them, and the salaries now paid to the principals, to become a saving to the public.

There were several other offices enumerated in the table annexed to the bill of 1813, in the customs and excise departments of the revenue, the duties of which were not performed in person.

Your committee have learnt, with satisfaction, that to any of these offices which have become vacant since the passing of that bill by the house, no appointment has been made by the Irish government; and that the salaries attached to them have been saved, by removing the individuals holding them to other effective offices.

They, therefore, have only to express their opinion that such of the offices enumerated in the table as yet remain, should be abolished as opportunities occur, and to recommend generally that the duties of all offices, of whatever description, connected with the collection and receipt of the public revenue, should be performed in person by those who hold them, at reasonable rates of salary.

#### ENGLAND.

##### *Offices in courts of law in the gift of the crown.*

The appointment to the undermentioned offices in the court of exchequer having been stated to your committee not to belong to the judges of that court, but to be in the gift of the crown, and it appearing that the duties of them are executed by deputy, there appears no reason for their being continued, except upon such an establishment as may afford an adequate remuneration to the proper officers hereafter appointed to discharge the duties in person.

#### *Exchequer.*

King's remembrancer; clerk of the pleas; clerk of the pipe; comptroller of the pipe; deputy ditto; marshal; foreign apposer; surveyor and receiver general of green wax; three messengers out of four; lord treasurer's remembrancer; clerk of foreign estreats; clerk of the Nichils; comptroller of first fruits.

#### *Alienation Office.*

Three commissioners; receiver general; two entering clerks; master in chancery; solicitor of the exchequer.

#### SCOTLAND.

Director of the court of chancery; clerk of the court of chancery; principal clerk in the court of admiralty; king's remembrancer; lord treasurer's remembrancer in the court of exchequer; one of the clerks in the pipe office; presenter of signatures, exchequer; register of seisions; clerk of the admission of notaries in the court of session.

All these offices are understood by your committee to be executed wholly by deputy, and to come therefore within the principle of regulation or abolition, after the termination of the present interests. It is, however, necessary to observe, with respect to the offices of director of the court of chancery, presenter of signatures, and register of seisions in Scotland, that as the duties of these three offices are stated to be highly important, and not only intimately connected with each other, but with the legal forms and proceedings on which the titles and security of real estates essentially depend in that part of the United Kingdom, your committee would, upon every principle, abstain from interfering with any of these legal forms and proceedings; and all which they have to submit with respect to the offices in question, is, that the emoluments of them ought to be so regulated, as to insure the due execution in person of their respective duties, by individuals competent by their professional knowledge to discharge those duties, and by their station in society to give such security as may be deemed adequate to the extent and nature of the trust appertaining to each of them respectively.

#### IRELAND.

All the offices in the courts of law in Ireland, included in the list annexed to the bill of 1813, with the exception of those which have hitherto been in the gift of the chief judges of the courts of law in Ireland, ought, in the opinion of your committee, to be regulated on such principles as shall insure the performance of their duties in person, by those who hold them, at such just and reasonable salaries as shall hereafter be determined on.

The following are the offices enumerated in that list, which are understood to have hitherto been in the nomination of the crown.

Public register of deeds; clerk of crown and hanaper; chief remembrancer; clerk of the pipe; comptroller of the pipe; chirographer; prothonotary, common pleas; prothonotary, king's bench; crown office king's bench; transcripter and foreign apposer; clerk of the report office; pursuivant court of exchequer; register of forfeitures; usher of the exchequer; register, court of chancery; accountant general, ditto; serjeant at arms, pleas office; lord treasurer's, or 2d remembrancer exchequer.

The right of appointment of the clerkship of the pleas of the court of exchequer has been contested by the chief baron of that court; and the right is not yet finally determined.

The duties of the accountant general of the court of chancery are now performed in person by the individual who holds the office; a vacancy in the office having occurred since the passing of the bill of 1815.

The same observation applies to the office of comptroller of the pipe:

#### COLONIAL OFFICES.

Upon the colonial offices, sufficient materials have not been laid before your committee for presenting them fully and satisfactorily to the view of the house; but the general principle to be applied in dealing with them appears to be, in the first place, that of enforcing, to the utmost, residence within the colonies or foreign possessions to which those offices belong, and personal performance by the principal, of the duties annexed to them; the second object to be attained ought to be the reduction of the salaries to such a rate, as may afford a fair and sufficient recompense for the services to be performed; and any saving which can be derived from such regulations, should be (as the case may be) in aid of some of the public burdens incidental to the civil government of such colonies or foreign possessions; observing further, that in the old colonies, any such application of savings must be made at the recommendation of the governor of such colonies, with the consent of the local legislatures of each.

It is difficult to state, with accuracy the aggregate annual value of all the offices which have been mentioned. Those which depend upon fees, fluctuate considerably in their amount from various circumstances; and there are several others (particularly those belonging to the colonies) of which the income has never been exactly returned. Referring therefore, to the statements already before the house in the third report on public expenditure, and in the reports upon sinecure offices, and taking also into account the regulation or abolition of some offices since that period, your committee see no reason to doubt that the annual income now derived from the offices which are thus brought under the observation of the house, as being at the disposal of the crown, and fit to be abolished or regulated, may be estimated at from 90,000*l* to 100,000*l*.

*Regulations applicable to offices, the duties of which are necessary to be continued.*

The inquiries now made, have fully confirmed the observation contained in the first report of the committee upon sinecure offices appointed in 1800: "That the number of offices which have revenue without employment either of principal or deputy, is very inconsiderable, and that by far the greatest number of offices, which are commonly described as sinecure, fall properly under the description of offices executed by deputy, or offices having revenue disproportionate to employment."

The only situations in England, of any considerable emolument which can be considered as perfect sinecures, are the two offices of chief justice in Eyre, north and south of the Trent; upon which your committee have only to state that there will be no difficulty in transferring any formal duties belonging to these offices (if any such still remain) to the commissioners of woods and land revenue; and that by this arrangement the present salaries may be wholly saved whenever these offices shall become vacant. These salaries as well as that of the lord warden of the cinque ports, being paid out of the English civil list, and

the salaries of several offices in Scotland and Ireland being in like manner charged upon the respective civil lists of those parts of the United Kingdom, your committee recommend that a general rule should be laid down for carrying to the consolidated fund these and similar savings as they may arise, after the termination of the interests now existing in any office charged upon those funds.

In Scotland there is one office of high rank and emolument, that of lord justice general, which appears to come under the same description as having no employment either of principle or deputy, and to the salary of which the same principle of reduction would consequently apply, in the event of the office being annexed by law to that of lord president of the court of session. One or two other offices enumerated in the schedule, but of inferior rank and emolument, have not, as far as your committee have been enabled to ascertain, any duties or responsibility annexed to them; they therefore should be abolished altogether, as soon as they may become vacant.

With respect to all the remaining offices included in the schedule of the bill of 1813, being those which are not altogether without employment, but which have either emolument greatly disproportionate to such employment, or are wholly executed by deputy, your committee do not feel themselves competent to recommend any general regulation by which the proper scale of salary in any of them may be settled, soon as the proposed reductions can be accomplished. They do not possess all the information necessary for this purpose; and even if they did, it is possible that an establishment which may be now adequate for any particular office, might cease to be so before the termination of the existing interest.

Your committee are therefore of opinion, that it should be left to the judgment and responsibility of the lords of the treasury for the time being, as vacancies occur, to place the several offices proposed to be regulated on such an establishment with respect to the number and rank of the persons requisite for the discharge of the efficient functions of such office, and the amount of salary to be assigned to each person as may appear to them adequate, after full inquiry into the nature and extent of the duties to be performed, and the degree of official responsibility which necessarily attaches to some of them. If it should be thought proper in any act to be passed with reference to the subject of this report, to enact, that where any of the said offices shall be reduced, or where, if there should be laid before both houses of parliament a comparative statement of the salaries under the old and new establishments, your committee conceive that the establishment created by this arrangement, should be sent to prevent any abuse of a power which, as the official and responsible advisers of the crown, upon all matters which relate to the revenue and control over the public

It is not improper in treating this part of

It is, to call the attention of the house more to the some peculiar circumstances before diso, which are connected with offices of allolument in the courts of law in Ireland. Spears, that upon a vacancy which recently ed in the office of clerk of the pleas in the

court of exchequer, by the death of the earl of Buckinghamshire, a claim to the appointment to that office was preferred by the chief baron of the exchequer in Ireland, and an individual was appointed by him, and was sworn in before the court of exchequer. A proceeding by *quo warranto* was instituted on the part of the crown, and the judgment of the court of king's bench was adverse to the claim of the chief baron. An appeal, however, has been made to the court of error; and may hereafter be made, by either party to the house of lords. In the mean time, by an act of the legislature, 56th Geo. III. c. 122, the emoluments of the office are paid into the treasury, and the due discharge of all the official duties provided for. It is not impossible that claims, similar to those which have been preferred in this instance by the chief baron, may be preferred to the appointment to other offices in the law courts of Ireland, of great disproportionate emolument, which have hitherto been considered as at the disposal of the crown.

Your committee cannot, however, avoid submitting to the house, whether it would not be perfectly consistent, both with justice and sound policy, to provide for the regulation of all such offices after the expiration of the legally vested interests, upon the principle on which it is proposed to regulate other offices partaking of the nature of sinecures.

The duties attached to many of the principal offices in the courts of law in Ireland, appear indeed to be so various and important, and to be necessarily performed by so many persons, that it would be extremely difficult, without the most mature consideration, and probably without inquiries instituted on the spot, to suggest any arrangement for the future conduct of the business of these offices, when the existing interest in them shall have terminated.

An act of the legislature will be necessary to give effect to any plan which may be suggested by the commissioners; it will therefore be competent to parliament to adopt generally the suggestions made by the commissioners, or to depart from them according to their discretion.

In the supposable event of a vacancy occurring in any of these offices before these commissioners make their report, it is, of course, understood that a temporary arrangement will be made for the performance of all the necessary duties which shall not, in any way, interfere with the immediate regulation of the offices, on the principles above recommended.

#### *Mode of rewarding high and efficient political services.*

Your committee would have found themselves under considerable difficulty in submitting to the house any specific plan for enabling the crown to reward high and efficient political services, if they had not taken for their guidance the principles and regulations established by the bill, so often referred to as the basis of the suggestions which they have to offer under this head.

After an attentive consideration of the mode proposed in that bill, for enabling the crown to recompense the faithful and meritorious discharge of high and efficient civil office, your committee entertain an opinion that, consistently, as they trust, with this important object, it will be practicable to make the new means of reward which is proposed to grant to the crown, less exten-

sive, and, at the same time, to place the power of conferring those rewards under limitations more restrictive than had been provided by the regulations of that bill.

Retaining the list and classification of offices according to that bill, your committee are of opinion that it would be expedient either to limit the total sum, which should in no case be exceeded, or to proceed, in another mode towards attaining the same object.

1st. By limiting the number of pensions which could be granted, and in operation at any one time, in each class. 2dly. By providing that the power of granting such pensions should be called progressively into operation at stated intervals, affording a reasonable probability that at least an equal saving will have been effected by the falling of the salaries or emoluments of some of the offices to be regulated or abolished, instead of commencing at once upon the vacancy of the first of such offices as might exceed 2,000*l.* a year, or at any one given period. 3dly. That the provision of the bill which would have made it lawful for his majesty, when any person should have served in more than one of the four classes, to grant such pension as is annexed to the highest class in which he may have been employed, (without any reference to the duration of his services in that class,) should be so far amended as to require from any such person a certain period of service in the higher class.

With reference to these principles of modification, your committee submit, that the number of pensions in each of the four classes, should be limited as follows:—

1st Class—First lord of the treasury, first lord of the admiralty, three secretaries of state, chancellor of the exchequer—six pensions of 3,000*l.*

2d Class—Chief secretary for Ireland, secretary at war—three pensions of 2,000*l.*

N. B. The chancellor of the exchequer for Ireland was included in this class in the bill of 1813.

3d Class—Two secretaries of the treasury, principal secretary of the admiralty—six pensions of 1,500*l.*

4th Class—Under secretaries of state, clerk of the ordinance—six pensions of 1,000*l.*

That the crown should have the power of granting one pension to each of these classes except the second, at the end of two years from the adoption of this system by the legislature, and so in succession at intervals of two years, until the expiration of twelve years, when it shall be lawful to the crown to grant the whole number of pensions proposed in each class. With respect to the second class, it is proposed that the power should not commence till the expiration of four years, so as to come into complete operation at the same period of twelve years, as in the three other classes.

Your committee conceive that the offices of the president of the board of control, and secretary to that board, come within the description of effective civil and political offices, so far as to entitle them to be considered in any general system intended to be laid down with regard to such offices; but they leave it to the wisdom of the house to determine whether, as their salaries are entirely drawn from another quarter, and not from the public revenue, these offices ought to be included in the provisions of any bill which may be framed upon the recommendations contained



in this report, or to form the subject of some other legislative measure.

The regulations of the bill, with respect to length of service in each of the four classes, your committee are of opinion might be amended in the following manner:—

1st Class.—Not less than two years service in one or more of the offices of that class; 2d and 3d classes—either five years in one of the offices of the other classes, so as to make in that case, at least eight years' service; but in the whole 4th class, at least ten years' service.

The only further alteration which it has occurred to your committee to recommend in limitation of the regulation of the bill, is, that the pensions of each class should in all cases be limited to the smaller sum specified in the bill, viz. 3,000*l.* for the first class; 2,000*l.* for the second; 1,500*l.* for the third; and 1,000*l.* for the fourth; without any progressive increase depending upon length of service; and that one half of such pension should abate upon the grantee being appointed to any civil office, or employment, under the crown of equal or greater amount.

It has occurred to your committee, that circumstances might probably arise, though of occasional and rare occurrence, in which it might be highly expedient for the crown to possess the power of granting one pension in the first class, without reference to any specific period of service in the person to whom it may be granted; and although there might be no actual vacancy in the class. They therefore submit to the house, whether it might not be expedient to grant such a power, subject to any regulations in the mode of exercising it, which may be thought necessary, and subject also to a provision that any such grant should be held to be supernumerary, so that upon any subsequent vacancy arising in the first class it should not be filled up, except in favor of the person holding such extraordinary pension; who from that time would be considered as forming one of the limited list of six.

Although it may be objected to the limited number proposed by your committee for each class, that circumstances may arise in which, from the whole number of pensions in any of the first classes having been previously granted, the crown might for a time be debarred from remunerating a person, who by long and meritorious services might be entitled to such a reward; such an inconvenience they apprehend could only exist for a short time; and on the other hand, your committee are of opinion, that without some such limitation, the saving which they contemplate as one of the inducements for substituting this mode of recompensing public service, for that which is now at the disposal of the crown, might be ultimately disappointed.

## SECOND REPORT

FROM THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

*Ordered, by the House of Commons, to be printed,  
March 29, 1817.*

The select committee appointed to inquire into, and state, the income and expenditure of the United Kingdom, for the year ended on the 5th of January, 1817, and also, to consider and state the probable income and expenditure (so far as the same can now be estimated) for the years ending on the 5th of January, 1818, and the 5th of

January, 1819, respectively, and to report the same, together with their observations thereupon, from time to time, and also to consider what further measures may be adopted for the relief of the country from any part of the said expenditure, without detriment to the public interest, have proceeded to investigate the principal establishments of the country, beginning with the army.

In this department, the first object that presents itself is the numerical amount of force.

Your committee are deeply sensible of the extreme difficulty of ascertaining the precise point at which our military establishment should be fixed, on account of political considerations, and others of a still more delicate nature, which must necessarily involve themselves in the question.—In taking into consideration the peace establishments of the country, it must be remembered, that if on the one hand they are proposed to be kept in a state of complete preparation, with a view of affording entire security to the nation, both at home and abroad, the continued expense must bear so heavily upon the resources of the country, as to preclude all hope of relief from the burdens of taxation, and the load of debt incurred during a long series of protracted hostilities: on the other hand, if they should be reduced too low, the temporary gain in point of economy might be more than counter-balanced by the hazardous situation in which this kingdom, together with its numerous and distant dependencies, might eventually be placed upon the breaking out of an unforeseen or sudden war; for which such a state of deficient military preparation might possibly offer no small temptation.

It is rather, therefore, for the executive government, acting on their responsibility to propose, and for the wisdom of the house to judge, of a matter of this high importance, than for your committee to offer an opinion: but they observe in the mean time, with satisfaction, that upon a comparison between the estimates of the two last years, and those for the present year, much will appear to have been effected in the way of reduction, both as to numbers and as to expense; and they entertain a confident hope, that such further reductions will continue to be made, as may be found consistent with all the true interests of the country, neither erring on the side of absolute confidence on the long duration of peace, nor giving way to unwarrantable apprehensions of danger and aggression.

And your committee further submit, that as the duration and magnitude of the astonishing exertions made by this kingdom during the late war, must mainly be attributed to the pecuniary resources then brought into operation, which could never be more justly deemed the sinews of war than during the whole course of that eventful contest; so these can be renovated and strengthened in no other way than by retrenchment and economy during the opportunity afforded by a return of peace.

At the same time, this most important consideration must always be kept in view, that if our military establishments should once be suffered to fall below the standard of efficiency and discipline to which they are now raised by great exertions, founded on experience, it will not be possible to restore them again to the same height without great waste of time, however urgently their best services may be required.

## LAND FORCES.

The first of the returns compares the numerical force maintained in the year 1816, with that intended to be maintained in 1817; both as to the difference of actual establishments in those two years, and of the force on account of which a charge is incurred by the public, distinguished from the force in France and in India.

The second gives the comparison of the total numbers in the years 1814, and 1817.

The third shews the comparative expense in the years 1816 and 1817, and also, the expense incurred in the year 1815. The reduction of that great establishment which the war had occasioned, was begun in 1816, and has been carried considerably further in the present estimates; the difference amounts to no less a sum than 1,738,496*l.* upon the net balance; although several charges, such as half pay, the compassionate list, and other allowances of a similar kind, are necessarily augmented by the termination of the war, and a diminution of the numbers maintained on active service.

Besides the mere numerical reduction, a principle of economy has been applied to the cavalry, by a diminution of the number of horses kept for the service of each regiment, to the extent of 20 in each troop: in the last year there were only 10 men dismounted in each troop, and that number is now doubled, by which a considerable charge is saved, without too far breaking down the efficiency of the regiments.

The particulars of the charge of a regiment of infantry in the years 1792 and 1817, are annexed, for the purpose of shewing the general establishment of each separate regiment which prevailed at that period, compared with the present, and also, for giving, at one view, the relative charge of maintaining the same numerical force in the two periods, which bears the proportion of very nearly two to three: being 245,094*l.* in 1792, and 331,974*l.* in 1817, for 8,500 infantry.

A comparison is also given of the expense of regimenting a force of 8,000 infantry into battalions of 400 rank and file each (the establishment existing in 1792,) and into battalions of 800 rank and file each; by which judicious arrangement an annual saving of 74,326*l.* as well as a more efficient staff, by the present mode of forming this amount of force, on the same number, is secured to the public.

The pay of the army, with regard to rank and file, has been exactly doubled since 1792, with additional allowances after seven years of service; but the augmentation of pay and daily allowance has been made upon a much lower scale to the officers; and the colonel still stands upon the same footing as in 1792.

In the cavalry no addition has been made to the pay of any rank superior to that of lieutenant, which has been increased from 8*s.* 5*d.* to 9*s.* per day; the dragon soldiers, whose daily pay was 8*d.* in 1792, now receives 1*s.* 3*d.* with the addition of 1*d.* after 10 years, and 2*d.* after 17 years of service.

The rate of agency remains precisely the same as in 1792 for corps of infantry; for corps of cavalry the rate of agency appears to have been reduced one-fourth, from 25th July, 1809. It is remarkable, that no augmentation has ever been made to the allowances for clothing and appointments of either cavalry or infantry. The rates of off-reckonings were first fixed in the reign of queen Anne,

and they remain the same at the present day; but in consequence of the great increase in the price of leather during the early part of the late war, an allowance of 15 per cent. upon the off-reckonings was granted to colonels of cavalry regiments, from 1799, after deducting therefrom 1*l.* 16*s.* per annum for every man wanting to complete the full establishment. This allowance has been issued every two years upon a memorial of the respective colonels, shewing that no diminution had taken place in the price of appointments, with the exception of two years from 25th December, 1803, to 24th December, 1805, for which the colonels did not claim it.

The difference which appears in the present and in former estimates, between the expense of clothing some regiments of equal numbers, is occasioned by some of them being upon the British and some upon the Irish establishment, which for a cavalry regiment of 464 rank and file, amount, upon the British establishment, to 2,845*l.* and upon the Irish (in Irish currency) to 3,500*l.* or 3,230*l.* British. This is stated to be a very old regulation, in which no alteration has been made of late years.

[Here follows a comparison of the total numbers, officers and men, provided for the army estimates of the years 1816 and 1817; also, for the rank and file for the same years.]

Your committee in making a reference to the year 1792, desire to call the notice of the house to the low establishments of the latter part of that year, which were deemed sufficient for all national purposes at that time, in the contemplation of a long continuance of peace; and although many circumstances are materially changed by events which have subsequently taken place, so as to prevent any exact parallel from being drawn between the two cases, especially in the amount of pecuniary charge, yet they submit that as near an approximation to that low scale of establishment and expense as may be found consistent with our more extended possessions, and with the augmented rates of various fixed disbursements, would be highly advantageous in relieving the burdens, and in supporting the public credit of the country.

The difference in numbers between the estimate of 1792 and the present estimate is—for Great Britain 14,011.

Of these 3,000 are on account of reliefs for the foreign service, which is very considerably increased by the distant possessions acquired during the war; the difference for Ireland is 12,000.

The numbers estimated to be kept up in the colonies and foreign dependencies for the last six months of the year 1792, amounted to 12,650 rank and file. The numbers allotted to the estimate for the current year, for the same foreign service, amount to 20,416.

The numbers maintained in the foreign possessions newly annexed to the crown, amounted, for the last year, to 18,200 rank and file; and they are for the current year 12,600. It is observable, that this last number is almost exactly the same numerical force as was spread over the whole colonies and foreign possessions of the crown of Great Britain previous to the war.

It may be further remarked, that in the estimates for the year 1816, these newly acquired possessions bore the proportion of two-thirds to the force employed in the old colonies; but in



the estimates for the current year, the force in the former is intended to be 12,600, and in the latter 20,416; so that the force in the former is relatively somewhat more reduced than in the latter.

A charge of 5,000*l.* in the regimental contingencies, for repairs at the horse guards, including the salary of the surveyor belongs properly to the army service; but all expenses of that kind should in future be carried on under the direction of the board of works, by which regulation the office and salary of a separate surveyor for this department will be rendered unnecessary. The present surveyor appears to have been appointed by the secretary at war, and his salary fixed in the manner recommended by the commissioners of military inquiry, in their 8th report.

## STAFF.

The expenses of the staff exhibit a considerable saving.

The total expense for the staff for Great Britain, as was originally estimated in 1816,

was,	66,411 <i>l.</i>
For Ireland, in Irish currency,	45,040
In the present estimate it stands, for	
Great Britain, at	39,630
For Ireland, in Irish currency,	24,406

In the staff upon foreign stations, the reduction seems to be carried to a still greater extent; and your committee notice with much satisfaction that the governors resident at Ceylon and the Cape of Good Hope, and the resident lieutenant governor at Gibraltar, are no longer included in the staff pay of their military rank, their civil appointments in time of peace, being considered adequate to the support of their respective situations.

Your committee cannot leave the subject of governments abroad, thus incidentally brought before them, without expressing a wish that some means may be devised for rendering the foreign possessions of the British empire more efficient towards defraying the expenses of their own military protection, since their value to the parent state, must be greatly diminished by their continuing a lasting drain on its resources.

The subject here adverted to may well deserve the attention of the house hereafter; but the papers and information before your committee, are not at present sufficiently ample to afford the means of pursuing such an inquiry, during the present session, to any useful result; they content themselves, therefore, with giving a very short general summary of the documents which the colonial office at present affords, so far as relates to the dependencies acquired during the late war.

It appears from these, that the revenue of Malta, with its dependencies, for the year 1815, amounted, in sterling money, to 114,426*l.* and that the expenditure for 1816, consisting principally of what are denominated salaries and pensions, on fixed establishments, amounted to 60,119*l.*

The funds in the Ionian Islands, under the immediate administration of Great Britain, in July 1815, left a favorable balance of 20,650*l.*

Expenses are stated in this return as being incurred in the island of Zante, by building a mole, by the continuation of an aqueduct, and in the making of roads.

The revenue of the Mauritius for the year 1814, including those of the Isle of Bourbon, (since restored to France by the treaty of peace,) gave

206,860*l.* and the charges for the same Islands amounted to 119,900*l.*

There being no later return for the Mauritius in the colonial office, it will be proper that orders should be sent out to the governor of this, as well as of every other foreign possession, to render more accurate information with regard to the several heads of income and charge in each respectively.

The military expenditure of the Island of Mauritius, Bourbon, and their dependencies, for the same year amounted to 186,912*l.*

The revenue and other receipts of the Island of Ceylon, during the year 1815, including, also, a balance in hand, amounted to 640,444*l.* and the expenditure to 647,843*l.* a very large proportion of which expenditure was incurred for the military establishments of the Island, the whole of which with the exception of the king's pay of the European troops, is defrayed out of the civil revenue. The native troops at the period of this return are stated to have amounted to about 5,000 rank and file.

The revenue of the Cape of Good Hope, for the year 1815, was 229,495*l.* and the expenditure 234,832*l.* including the pay of a native corps.

Total staff in Great Britain, Jersey, Guernsey, and Ireland. Appointments in the years 1815, 217—1816, 111—and 1817, 100.

[To be continued.]

## REPORT

*Of the Board of Commissioners on the Northern or Champlain Canal.*

The advantages which will result from the connection of Lake Erie with the navigable waters of the Hudson by means of a canal, have been so frequently elucidated, and are indeed so obvious to every one who possesses a correct geographical knowledge of the west, that it has been deemed unnecessary to enumerate them. But presuming that the benefits to be derived from a similar communication with Lake Champlain, are not fully understood or duly appreciated, the commissioners ask the indulgence of briefly pointing out a few of the most prominent of these benefits.

That part of this state which is contiguous to Lakes George and Champlain, abounds in woods, timber, masts, spars, and lumber of all kinds, which transported by the northern canal, would find a profitable sale along the Hudson, and in the city of New York, instead of being driven as much of those articles have heretofore been, to a precarious market by a long and hazardous navigation to Quebec.

Some idea may be formed of the immense quantity of lumber, which would be conveyed on the contemplated canal, from the following statement, made on the best authority, and which embraces only that small section of the northern part of this state, from whence the transportation is carried on to the city of New York, or to intermediate markets.

Within that tract of country embracing the borders of Lake George, and the timber land north and west of the great falls in Luzerne, there are annually made and transported to the south, two millions of boards and plank; one million feet of square timber consisting of oak, white and yellow pine, besides dock logs, scantling and other timber to a great amount.

A considerable portion of the northern parts of this state is rough and mountainous, and, in a great measure, unfit for agricultural improvements. These broken tracts are covered with native forests, which by the contemplated canal, would furnish vast supplies of wood and lumber for many years; and thus the great and increasing population which occupies the margin of the Hudson, would be supplied with boards, plank, timber, fencing materials, and even fuel, with less expense, than from any other quarter; while at the same time, the lands to the north, considerable tracts of which belong to the people of this state, would be greatly increased in value.

The mountains in the vicinity of Lakes George and Champlain produce a variety of minerals, among which are found, in inexhaustible quantities, the richest of iron ores. Several forges are in operation in the counties of Washington, Warren, Essex, and Clinton, the number of which may be indefinitely increased; and the iron which they produce is very little, if at all, inferior in quality to the best iron manufactured in the United States; nor can it be doubted that, after the completion of the contemplated canals, the middle and western parts of the state would be furnished with this necessary article on more advantageous terms than it can at present be procured.

The inhabitants of a large tract of country on both sides of Lake Champlain, embracing a considerable portion of the state of Vermont, would find, by the northern canal, a permanent market in the city of New York, or at intermediate places, for their pot and pearl-ashes, and also for all their surplus agricultural productions, from whence they would also be cheaply supplied with all the necessary articles of foreign growth.

The iron of the northern part of this state, which is at present unwrought in the mine, and the fine marble of Vermont, which now lies useless in the quarry, would be converted to useful and ornamental purposes in the west in exchange for salt and gypsum; and thus the large sums which are annually sent abroad for the purchase of iron, of salt, and of gypsum, would be retained among our citizens, and added to the permanent wealth of the state.

In short, the connection of Lake Champlain with the Hudson, by means of a canal, would greatly enhance the value of the northern lands; it would save vast sums in the price of transportation; it would open new and increasing sources of wealth; it would divert from the province of Lower Canada, and turn to the south, the profits of the trade of Lake Champlain; and by imparting activity and enterprise to agricultural, commercial, and mechanical pursuits, it would add to our industry and resources, and thereby augment the substantial wealth and prosperity of the state.

The examination and levels for this canal have been made under the direction of the commissioners, by Colonel Lewis Garin, and the line for the same has been marked out upon maps herewith presented. There are two places of departure from the Hudson, in order to connect that river with Lake Champlain, each of which affords a very favorable route, in point of soil, to be excavated, and of materials for the artificial works.—One of these routes, by commencing at the mouth of Fort Edward creek, and pursuing the valley to that creek to the summit level, and then following the ravine of Wood-creek, will reach Whitehall, in the distance of twenty miles. This route was

formerly deemed most eligible by a board of commissioners composed of General Schuyler, and others. It is, however, supposed by the engineer, that the other route may be preferable which commences about six miles further down the river, near the mouth of Moses' kill, and which, by the natural channel of this kill, and Dead-creek, joined to a short length of artificial canal, forms the summit level from whence it proceeds—partly by the natural channel of Wood-creek, and partly by artificial cuts, which greatly shorten the distance, to Whitehall. The length of this route is twenty-eight miles, and it passes over soil which is, in general, remarkably favorable, consisting principally of vegetable mould, loam and clay. At the northern termination of the canal, a few yards of limestone excavation will be necessary: this, however, is not deemed an unfavorable circumstance, as the stone are of such a quality as will be useful to the construction of locks, and it may be remarked, that the materials for the construction of locks between Lake Champlain and the Hudson can be procured with little difficulty.

Between the Hudson and Lake Champlain nine locks will be necessary: viz. three at the Hudson of 7,779 feet lift each, by which the summit level will be attained, and by a deep cutting, the greatest depth of which will be 12,465, and the length of which is about two miles; the summit level will be extended fifteen miles, and terminate about one mile south of Fort Ann. At this place two locks will be necessary of 6,217 feet lift each.—Between this point and Whitehall, two locks, the first of 8,223 feet lift, and the next of 9,243 feet lift, are to be made. At Whitehall, the canal is to be connected with Lake Champlain by two locks of 8,550 feet lift each. About fifteen miles of this route will need no excavation, as the canal for that distance will occupy the natural channel of Moses' kill, Dead-creek, and Wood-creek. In order to turn off as much as possible the superfluous waters of freshets, and to ensure at all times a sufficiency of water on the summit level, it is proposed to erect a dam across Half-way brook of eighteen feet in height, half a mile above the mouth of said brook, and by a natural ravine leading to the south, to direct so much water of said brook to the summit level, and from thence by several waste-wiers, into the Hudson, as may be necessary for the convenience of the canal.

The water in the canal is not to be less than thirty feet wide at the surface, twenty feet at the bottom, and three feet deep, and the locks to be seventy-five feet long, and ten feet wide in the clear.

By the mode of calculation heretofore adopted by the commissioners, the whole expense between Lake Champlain and the Hudson, at the mouth of Moses' kill, will not exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

From the mouth of Moses' kill it is proposed to improve the channel of the Hudson for the purposes of navigation, as far south as the village of Stillwater, at the head of Stillwater falls. This may be effected in the following manner:—By erecting a dam of three feet in height across the Hudson, at the head of Fort Miller falls, the river above as far as Fort Edward, would at all times afford a sufficiency of water for boats drawing three feet. To overcome the descent of Fort Miller Falls, a side cut, or artificial canal of about one mile in length, and with two locks of 10,321 feet lift each, will be necessary. These works, in-

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cluding the dam, locks, excavation, towing path, and all other expenses, may be estimated at fifty thousand dollars.

Two and a half miles below the south end of this canal, at the head of Saratoga Falls, a dam three feet in height is to be made across the river, and a side cut round the falls similar to the above, of about one mile in length, with two locks of 6,198 feet lift each. It is believed that all the artificial works at this place may be constructed for thirty-five thousand dollars.

Thirteen miles below this place, at the head of Stillwater falls, another dam of three feet in height, will, in like manner, ensure a good boat navigation up to the Saratoga falls.

The cost of this dam, the construction of a towing-path, with several bridges, the purchase of Schuyler's mill, which it is supposed will be necessary, together with all the other expenses of this section, are estimated at fifty thousand dollars.

From the village of Stillwater, at a point above the dam last mentioned, it is proposed to cut an artificial canal to the village of Waterford, where it is to be connected with the Hudson. This canal will be supplied with water from the river at its upper end. Its length will be nearly twelve miles, and the whole descent is 76,464 feet; which will require eight locks. The excavation of this canal for some distance near the upper end, will be considerably expensive, as it passes through a slate rock; the middle and lower parts, however, are very favorable.

The expenses from Stillwater to Waterford, may be estimated as follows:

76 feet lockage, at \$1,000 per foot,	76,000
12 miles of excavation and towing path, with bridges, culverts, and other necessary works, at an average of thirty thousand dollars per mile,	360,000

*Recapitulation of expenses.*

From Whitehall to the Hudson,	250,000
Dam, side cut, and other works at Fort Miller falls,	50,000
Do. at Saratoga falls,	35,000
To Stillwater, including dam, &c.	50,000
From Stillwater to Waterford, including lockage,	436,000
Add for contingencies, engineers, and superintendence,	50,000

Total, \$871,000

Whether the canal from Lake Champlain enters the Hudson at Fort Edward creek or at Moses' kill, is not very material in the estimate of expense; and the commissioners wish to be explicitly understood, that they consider this question as still open, and as one which will require mature deliberation. It is ascertained that both routes are equally practicable.

The termination of the northern canal in the Hudson at Waterford, will afford the cities of Albany and Troy, and the village of Lansingburgh and Waterford, a full participation of its benefits; and its approximation to the great western canal, will open the most beneficial channels of communication between every great section of the country, and furnish every facility for promoting the activity and enlarging the sphere of inland trade, which constitutes one of the principal elements of national opulence, prosperity, and greatness. And before the lapse of half a century, those who succeed us will witness in the consolidation of

those cities and villages into one great city, a union of interests and sympathies, which will totally dissipate the apprehensions and jealousies that may now exist.

All which is respectfully submitted,

DE WITT CLINTON,  
S. VAN RENSSELAER,  
MYRON HOLLEY,  
SAMUEL YOUNG.

Albany, March 13, 1817.

**ZOOLOGICAL.**

To the editors of the Federal Republican and Baltimore Telegraph.

GENTLEMEN—If the following observations respecting the American *Gryllus*, hastily thrown together in consequence of your public request for information on the subject, will afford any gratification, they are perfectly at your service.

Yours, &c.

The only states in which we recognise the American Locust, as it is termed, are those of larva chrysalis and aurelia; the successive changes which this curious insect undergoes for seventeen years, remain for the investigation of the naturalist to develop. Its regular appearance at the prescribed period has obtained for it the appellation of the *seventeen year Locust*, among the peasantry of Maryland.

In the year 1800, this animal, as far as my information extends, was by far more numerous than at present, at least in the immediate environs of Baltimore. Curiosity was on the alert, but nothing was published with us as illustrative of its characteristics.

The chrysalis of this Locust, is about one inch in length, having six legs, and in every respect resembling the aurelia which protrudes from it, with the exception of wings, or any involution which might point out their construction.

This chrysalis digs its way out of the earth, and crawls upon the nearest object which presents itself; here, having rested awhile, it seems to apprehend its approaching transformation; it then sinks its sharp pointed feet into the substance upon which it chancas to be fixed, and the wonderful transmigration commences. The neck of the chrysalis first splits, and that portion of the future animal is pushed forth—next the head becomes disengaged; and lastly, the body itself is dragged from its confinement. This last process is much more tedious, apparently, owing to two strong ligamentous bands, which extend from the tail to the neck of the chrysalis; and is like the other portions from which the new body has been extracted, *tubular*; what purposes they serve, unless to bind the *scutae* together, my leisure has not permitted me to ascertain. There are some instances, however, in which the aurelia is disengaged first by the body, the head coming last: this, perhaps, may be owing to the shortness of this band at the neck, or some peculiarity in its structure.

The Locust, now freed from its encasement, settles itself near to it—the glutinous matter which covers its body, no doubt to facilitate its egress, is gradually evaporated, and in a few hours the wings and other parts are developed.

The head of the Locust is of a triangular shape; two of the angles being placed laterally, and the third turned down as it were upon the fore part of the throat: at each of the lateral angles the



eyes are situated, and at a little distance inwardly two antennæ—these antennæ are formed apparently into three or more tubes which seem destined mutually to receive and be received by each other: but whether they are really endowed with the power of elongation and contraction, I have not satisfactorily ascertained.

The lower angle terminates in a projection of about one eighth of an inch in length—this I shall take the liberty of calling a proboscis; it is composed of a double tube, the openings of which can be plainly seen by a microscope on the termination which lies between the first and second pair of legs, and nearly close upon the breast; it is very setaceous, and is protected from injury both by the peculiarity of structure and situation.—This proboscis is surrounded by three and sometimes four *epikria*, if I may be allowed the expression, to prevent the repetition and confusion of antennæ. These *epikria* seem destined to select and judge of the proper aliment for this Locust. The instant this proboscis is attempted to be raised, by a pin for instance, the whole strength of the animal is brought into action for its protection. That this is absolutely intended as the proper mode of conveying sustenance to the Locust, either by its flexion, as in the elephant, or by capillary attraction, is extremely probable, especially when you find that the portion of the proboscis next the head, terminates in a membranous sack, and this is placed directly over the gullet of the animal, which is but a *rime* or clink seen in the lower jaw.

The body of the animal is composed of six or seven *scute*, gradually enlarging from the chest downwards; the last terminating in the *cloaca*.

The chest is divided from the abdomen by a very strong muscular diaphragm, and from this circumstance is enabled to produce the shrill whizzing noise, so characteristic of the locust. The lungs are composed of two bladders on each side. The first are easily discovered by the naked eye, lying under what we may term the ribs, which are not united to the abdomen; and on elevating this shield-like covering, the communication can easily be seen between the first and second sack, which terminates under the second wing—this is striated with eleven or twelve white pencilings, shaped like the italic *S*—these are connected together (*at present*) by a very delicate membrane: when the animal is disposed to issue notes which appear to be intended for amatory purposes, the large bag of the lungs is powerfully pressed up by the diaphragm, and perhaps by a peculiar contractility of its own, the air contained is forced into the second lung-bag, and then its strizæ are agitated with almost unaccountable velocity, the air, in my opinion, acting on the principle of the *Æoleon* harp; there is such a facility in effecting this, as would unquestionably suggest an immediate contact of air through the openings at the lower end of the chest, perhaps valve, and thus add another proof that they possess a real proboscis for nourishment alone. The under wing is doubled, and protects that part of the lungs which is so violently agitated during the emission of the sound. The outer wing, near its posterior and inferior extremity, has a communication of fibres, which are likened to the letter W—hence the vulgar opinion that it denotes *war*; indeed, some have gone so far as to say they have seen the letter P on their wings, as a harbinger of *peace*. It may be requisite to annote all these particulars, as tend-

ing to a more minute investigation; for if the vulgar can prefer such particular records, they may have more influence upon the minute investigator. The same appearance was exhibited upon their outer wings in 1800. Their peculiar mode of walking, is worthy of consideration: they advance upon a triangle, which is composed of the first and third foot of the same side, and the second of the other—thus forming a tripod, balancing the body equally. There is no apparatus for the common springing of this insect, which induces me to believe that the vulgar name only ranks it in the class of *gryllus*. The beauty of the whole animal, when viewed by the microscope—the harmony of the corresponding parts, and above all, its wonderful transmigration, is fully illustrative of the existence of an all-wise Creator.

Thus far we can ascertain facts, and I regret that neither time nor opportunity affords a more minute description. The anatomy of this Locust would be a subject worthy of the finest talents, and might serve to elucidate many parts of that science which are at present obscured, if not totally neglected.

We now enter upon the next subject, the *habitudes* of the American locust; and here, indeed, for want of previous data, I am altogether at a loss; for if it take the usual course of a man's life to acquire excellence in the most common subjects, how much more arduous is the one now before us, when we have but a fleeting opportunity of observation once in seventeen years! All we can accomplish is, to state such facts as fall beneath our notice, leaving to posterity the task of accomplishment.

The locust is an harmless animal; its appearance, as before mentioned, in 1800, comprised a far greater number than the present, yet no damage was committed by this tribe. It paid some attention that year to the novelty and sudden appearance of the gryllus, and I was no less amused with the *tradition*, that they were seven years descending into the earth, and seven years ascending; thus making only fourteen years between each appearance; others remarked they were nine years occupied in each toil, and this comes nearer the truth: further I could learn nothing, as their appearance had left no impression of their significance amongst some of the oldest inhabitants of Maryland—a proof that they were considered as perfectly harmless.

In a few days after the development of the new being, it begins a most distracting noise—this is the call to pairing: their mode is very similar to that of the common rose bug.

The method of depositing the larva, though the first mentioned, is the last to be announced as regards the history of the animal, is equally strange with every other portion of its history; for here the naturalist would commence his operations.

The female is furnished with a lanciform instrument, which, like the sting of the bee, she can dart out at pleasure; with this, at the convenient period, she penetrates the cuticle of the most delicate portions of shrubs or trees, but never attacking the succulent plants. The ripping up of the bark being effected, the larva are placed over each other: the second half protecting the first, and so on in regular succession—there are generally two rows upon each split. Here the history of the animal finishes; for it would seem that with one accord we have left the locust to find its

way back to our notice, giving it seventeen years leave of absence. Here, in truth, its history must begin. We cannot for a moment suppose that the larva of this wonderful animal, which is about the size, and not unlike the flaxseed, could remain this length of time without some peculiar changes more than in the ordinary course of nature. We know that the caterpillar will, in one season, be converted into a butterfly; we know that the once formidable lombardy poplar worm, will in a few weeks become a most beautiful and harmless aurelia: we know, likewise, that most of the worms which both disgust and alarm the timid, will in a short space be changed into winged objects, both of curiosity and admiration. Those considerations induce me to doubt very much the *longevity* of the American gryllus; for why should such a length of time, toil and absence be requisite to its re-appearance? Yet all this may be true, and the locust of America may be an exception to the usual order of entomology.

Can it be possible that the numerous species of insects which overrun this continent, is derivable from the American gryllus; and that in seventeen years we shall have as many species of insects?

Whatever may be thought of the hypothesis, there is more reason in it than to suppose seventeen years requisite for the transformation of a larva into a chrysalis, and from this into an aurelia! The reverse would be esteemed anomalous in the historical description of insects!

There still remains one fact to be accounted for, both by those who pretend to philosophy and those who take common observation for their guide, and it is to be hoped that all will unite in the solution of the question—to wit: as the usual appearance of the locust is in May, and its disappearance in or about October, what becomes of the bodies of those insects? We never see them strewn upon the ground, and yet if they were to cease their existence after depositing their larva, common observation would tell the final extermination of the parents. The truth is, no trace can be found of their disappearance!

If the previous observations will tend to elicit the observations of those more qualified for the subject and of more leisure, I shall congratulate you on the happy result.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.—MARSHAL MASSENA.

From the *Paris Moniteur* of 6th March, 1817.

Andrew Massena, Prince of Essling, Duke of Rivoli, Grand Cross of the Royal Order of the Legion of Honor, Commander of the the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis. &c. &c. was born at Nice on the 8th of May, 1758, and died in the hotel at Paris, in the street de Bourbon, on the morning of the 4th of April, after a long and excruciating illness.

After having at an early period of life served three years at sea, he entered into the army of France during the year 1775, when he joined the Royal Italian regiment, in which his uncle was a captain.

He successively became commander of the second battalion of the Var, colonel of the ci-devant regiment of le Sarre, and a general of brigade and of division in 1793. The ensuing year he commanded a body of 20,000 men, charged with the

expedition of Ouello, and the taking of Saorgio; he afterwards almost uniformly commanded the advanced guard of the army of Italy, took the principal part in its movements, and acquired the epithet of the Cherished child of Victory!

Hostilities recommencing in 1789, he as commander of the army of the Danube, made that memorable campaign which the battle of Zurich rendered at once so decisive and glorious; of which 70,000 prisoners were the trophies, and where he contended with those two great generals, Prince Charles, and marshal Suwaroff. He immediately afterwards took upon himself to conduct the wreck of the army of Italy, and acquired new reputation by the defence of Genoa, where his heroic bravery a second time conquered Italy.

After having sat in the legislative assembly as deputy for the department of the Seine, he commanded the new army of Italy, in the campaign of 1805, and penetrated with it into Germany.—He was after this entrusted with the conquest of the kingdom of Naples, whence he was called into Poland, and returned to France on the peace of Tilsit.

In 1809, war again summoned him to the plains of Germany, where, after several honorable actions, he received upon the field of Essling, the title of prince, having there sustained the shock of the enemy's right, and thus saved the French army by his manœuvres and his judgment. He afterwards bore a brilliant part in the battle of Wagram, during which, although sick and wounded, he was seen at the head of his troops, whom he animated by his example.

His military career ended with the command of the army of Portugal, in 1810 & 11, and where he again displayed the firmness of his character, in the midst of those difficulties which he surmounted. He has left a widow, two sons and a daughter, who is married to lieut. gen. the count Reille, his eleve, and aid-de-camp since 1793.

### FROM THE BRATTLEBOROUGH YEOMAN.

There is something of poetry, but more of truth, in the following lines, which we copy from a very respectable paper.

### TO AN IGNIS FATUUS.

He that pursues a light like thine  
Thro' swamps, and fields, and woods of pine,  
Will know at last thy rays deceive,  
And may, perchance, find cause to grieve.  
Thou witching, cheating, fitful thing,  
Now pausing still, now on the wing,  
What fool from the dull path would pass,  
Tho' fence'd with brush and clothed with grass,  
To catch one beam of thy false light,  
In lonely hour, or darkest night?  
Along the meadow's winding stream,  
Or near some grave thou lovest to gleam—  
As tho' ethereal mountain air  
Forbade thy nightly revels there.  
In life's plain road then let me move,  
Nor in the fields of fancy rove;  
For erring poets there will find  
The Ignis Fatuus of the mind.

### FINE ARTS.

The medals voted by congress to our military and naval officers, we learn, have been commenced, and are in a state of forwardness. The one representing the capture of the Java on one side, and a bust of commodore Bainbridge on the

reverse, has been finished by Mr. Furst, in Philadelphia, in the most perfect style of execution, and is a distinguished proof of the advancement of the arts in this country. The same artist has commenced the medal of commodore Perry, and will, likewise, finish one representing the action on Lake Erie, by order of the state of Pennsylvania, who has appropriated 2,000 dollars to defray the expense. The series of medals, comprising all the celebrated merits of the war, will be first finished; after which we learn that it is the intention of the artist to perpetuate some of our private actions: among which will be a representation of the attack on the General Armstrong, in the port of Fayal.—*N. York paper.*

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

Whereas by an act of congress, passed on the 3d day of March, 1815, entitled "An act to provide for the ascertaining and surveying of the boundary lines fixed by the treaty with the Creek Indians and for other purposes," the president of the United States is authorized to cause the lands acquired by the said treaty to be offered for sale when surveyed, and whereas the following townships have been surveyed, in the District of Alabama, in the Mississippi Territory, to wit:

Townships 11 and 12	in range 13.
10, 11 and 12	14.
9, 10, 11 and 12	15.
9, 10, 12 and 13	16.
13, 14, 15, 16 and 17	17.
13, 14, 15, 16 and 17	18.
13, 14, 15 and 16	19.
13, 14, 15 and 16	20.

Therefore, I, JAMES MONROE, president of the United States, in conformity with the said act, do hereby declare and make known, that public sales for the disposal (agreeably to law) of the lands above described, shall be held at Milledgeville, in the state of Georgia, on the first Monday in August next, and shall remain open for three weeks and no longer, the sales to commence with the township first above named, and proceed in the order in which they are named.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the twenty-fourth day of May, 1817.

By the President.

(Signed) JAMES MONROE.

JOSIAH MEIGS,

Commissioner of the  
General Land Office.

NEW-ORLEANS BATTURE.

To the honorable John Soulie, Recorder, &c. to be laid before the City Council of the city of New-Orleans:

The motives expressed in my former letters have induced me to make one more attempt to conciliate the interests of the city with the rights of the proprietors of the Batture, by the following propositions:

*First.* We will convey to the city all that part of the batture which lies between the city and the continuation of Poydras-street to the river.

*Second.* We will leave a space of two hundred feet on each side at the extremity of Julia-street, on the levee, and will at our private expense, within two years, erect a market-house thereon, which shall cost at least ten thousand dollars.

*Third.* The levee shall be erected at our expense, and a space of sixty feet shall be left between it and low water mark, on which levee the corporation of the city shall exercise all the rights of police now exercised on the other levees of the city; and they shall receive the wharfage without any impediment on our part, or those claiming under us.

*Fourth.* We release all actions which we or any of us might have against the corporation for any disturbance, trespasses, or other cause whatsoever.

*Fifth.* We will widen the Chapitoulas-street to sixty feet in its whole extent, and cross-streets shall be opened to the river, at least every three hundred feet.

*Sixth.* The corporation shall declare that in accepting these donations and renunciations, they will raise no obstacle to the making the levee above-mentioned, and to our full enjoyment of the residue of the property, and they shall employ the chain-negroes in making the levee on the property conveyed along the line of Poydras-street, which separates the property abandoned to them from that which is retained.

*Seventh.* The property contained in the donation shall never be built upon, but shall remain open for the public use of the citizens, for taking of the earth &c. forever.

*Eighth.* The corporation shall make no law or ordinance preventing vessels or boats from coming to the levee opposite to our property.

*Ninth.* The donations and renunciations herein contained, are made only on the condition that no obstacle is raised to our enclosing and improving of the property retained, and shall be void if we are prevented from making the levee.

We are sir, with great respect, &c.

(Signed) EDWARD LIVINGSTON;

WM. P. STEWART, Guardian of the estate of the widow of Peter Delabigarre, and her two daughters.

LAFON, testamentary executor of Peter Delabigarre, acting for Lacarriere Latour, also testamentary executor.

CITY COUNCIL OF NEW-ORLEANS,

Saturday March 8, 1817.

*Resolved,* That the propositions of Mr. Edward Livingston, and the heirs of Delabigarre, on the subject of the Batture in front of the suburb St. Marie, be published in the French and English languages for five days, in two Gazettes of this city.

MCE. BOURGOIS, City Clerk.

FOREIGN SUMMARY.

SWEDEN.

It is stated that a conspiracy had been formed in Sweden about the middle of April. The circumstances have never been promulgated, nor the extent to which it had progressed, before it was discovered. It appears that whatever may have been the design, or however extended or ramified the plot, no serious mischief has been done.

GERMANY.

The first column of Prussian troops returning from France, has passed by Coblenz, and the first Austrian column by Ratisbon.

FRANCE.

April 21.—Rain has at length fallen at Marseilles, after a heat of great intensity, and a



drought of seven weeks; while in Paris a north wind has occasioned considerable frosts, and a severe cold.

A drought has prevailed in the departments of Gard and the Var to an alarming extent. Public prayers had been offered up for the termination of the calamitous season, and for the return of rain, of which the country is represented to stand in the utmost need.

April 24.—The king held a council of ministers yesterday, which was prolonged from one till half past five o'clock.

A report has prevailed for several days in Paris, and gained considerable credence, that the chamber of deputies are to be dissolved.

April 25.—It is reported that the king of Prussia will visit the head quarters of the army stationed in France, which he will review, after visiting the new provinces of the Prussian empire. It is rumored, also, that he will visit Paris for some days.

They write from Bayonne, that all letters coming there from Spain are dipped in vinegar, and that this precaution had been dictated by the news, that very contagious disorders then raged in certain parts of that country. It is said that an epidemic had caused great ravages among the troops in Estremadura.

The count de Blacas, ambassador from France to the Holy See, arrived in Paris yesterday. It is thought this journey has some affairs of negotiation in view from the court of Rome.

ITALY.

April 21.—The weather is represented to have been very fine, notwithstanding some extraordinary heat had been experienced, and the crops to promise abundance.

DOMESTIC SUMMARY.

UNITED STATES' INTERIOR BOUNDARY LINE.

On the 14th ult. colonel Ogilvy, the British commissioner for settling the Canada boundary from St. Regis westward, and some of the gentlemen attached to his mission, left Montreal for St. Regis, where they expect to meet general Porter, the American commissioner. On the same day colonel Bouchett and suite also left Montreal for Boston, where he will meet colonel Barclay: these two gentlemen have been appointed commissioners by the British and American governments to determine the future boundary to the east of Lake Champlain between the British provinces and the United States.

The day after colonel Ogilvy left Montreal for St. Regis, general Porter and suite arrived at the Mansion House Hotel in that city; from whence he was to proceed to St. Regis. Colonel Hawkins and lady arrived in company with general Porter.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Both houses of the legislature met at Boston on Wednesday the 28th ult. A quorum of both branches being present, they were organized in due form, and proceeded to choose their officers. The hon. JOHN PHILLIPS was chosen president of the senate, and SAM'L F. McCLEARY, Esq. secretary.

The hon. TIMOTHY BIGLOW was chosen speaker of the house of representatives, and BENJ. POLZARD, Esq. clerk.

MARYLAND.

Baltimore, June 3.

On Sunday last, about 2 o'clock, p. m. the Pre-

sident of the United States arrived in this city, escorted by the First Baltimore Hussars, and a large concourse of respectable citizens on horseback, and took up his lodgings at the Fountain Inn, Light-street. In the evening, he attended divine service at the First Presbyterian Church, in East-street.

Early yesterday morning, accompanied by the generals Smith, Stricker, Wind-r, Swift, &c. proceeded to view the works thrown up to defend Baltimore in the late war, and the field of battle, in which memorable engagement the British general Ross was killed.

At 11 o'clock, the President, accompanied as before, examined Fort M'Henry, in the gallant defence of which, under colonel Armistead and a noble band of citizen soldiers, during a furious bombardment of twenty-four hours, the honor of the *Star Spangled Banner* was bravely maintained, and the city of Baltimore finally preserved from pillage and destruction. On entering the fort, the President was received with a federal salute.

After examining the fort, the President reviewed the 3d brigade of Maryland militia, under the command of general Sterrett. This brigade, which made so distinguished a figure during the war, turned out with alacrity, and made a fine appearance. The field was covered with people of all ranks, in coaches and carriages; many were on horseback, and many more on foot, who all expressed a lively satisfaction at seeing the chief magistrate of the republic. At 5 o'clock the President received the officers of the 3d brigade at the Fountain Inn.

In the afternoon, the President visited the Washington and Faneuil Monuments, and other public buildings; and expressed his entire approbation of the citizens of Baltimore.

This morning, a little before seven o'clock, the President of the United States left this city in the steam boat Philadelphia, for the eastward. The mayor and city council accompanied him to the boat, and several citizens accompany him to Frenchtown. It is expected that he will arrive at New-Castle this day, where he will lodge, and reach Philadelphia to-morrow.

Yesterday afternoon, a number of citizens waited on the President, at his apartments, among whom were the officers of the third brigade; and at an appointed hour, the mayor and a committee from the corporation paid him their respects, and presented him with the following address:

Baltimore, June 2, 1817.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SIR—We, the mayor and city council of Baltimore, embrace, with great pleasure, this opportunity of personally congratulating the chief magistrate of the Union on his arrival in this place.

Your determination, in the commencement of your administration, to visit several of the most important places in the Union, is auspicious of happy consequences: not satisfied with previous knowledge, or second hand information, you are anxious that, on your part, nothing shall be wanting to promote the common weal.

That a city which bore so conspicuous a part in the national defence, should first be honored with the presence of the chief magistrate of the Union, is as flattering as it is natural; and we sincerely hope that your observation of our position, and means of defence, may enable us, before another war, to bid defiance to any enemy.

When, sir, we review your long tried, faithful, and able services; when we consider the increasing harmony and concord of the United States, when almost universal peace reigns among the nations, we augur great and lasting happiness to the United States, in giving full scope to the development of her faculties in the arts and sciences; in agriculture, manufactures, and commerce; and in the permanent exhibition of the advantages of a form of civil and political government, superior to any that has hitherto existed.

To our fellow citizens it is a most interesting spectacle, to see the chief magistrate of this great and powerful nation, making an official tour through their country in the style of a private citizen, guarded only by the respect paid to the high station he occupies, and the affections of a virtuous people.

We, sir, wish you, in the sincerity of our hearts, a pleasant tour through the states, a happy return to Washington, a reputation and satisfaction in your presidency equal to any of your predecessors; and finally the reward of a well spent life, in an eternal world.

We are, sir, with sentiments of very great respect, your most obedient servants,

GEO. STILES,

*Mayor of the city of Baltimore.*

#### ANSWER OF THE PRESIDENT.

TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE.

FELLOW CITIZENS—The sentiments which you have communicated, have afforded me very great satisfaction. They are just, as to the objects adverted to, and to me, they are generous and kind.

It was impossible for me to approach Baltimore without recollecting, with deep interest, the gallant conduct of her citizens, in the late war, and the happy result attending their exertions. The glorious victory which was achieved here, and in which her citizens bore so distinguished a part, at a very important epoch, not only protected this patriotic city, but shed great lustre on the American name.

Experience has shewn our dangers, and admonished us as to the means of averting them. Congress has appropriated large sums of money for the fortification of our coast, and inland frontier, and for the establishment of naval dock yards, and building a navy. It is proper, that these works should be executed with judgment, fidelity, and economy; much depends, in the execution, on the executive, to whom extensive power is given, as to the general arrangement; and to whom the superintendence exclusively belongs. You do me justice in believing, that it is to enable me to discharge these duties, with the best advantage to my country, that I have undertaken this tour.

From the increased harmony of public opinion, founded on the successful career of a government, which has never been equalled, and which promises by a further development of its faculties, to augment, in an eminent degree, the blessings of this favored people, I unite with you, in all the anticipations which you have so justly suggested.

In performing services, honestly and zealously intended for the benefit of my fellow citizens, I shall never entertain a doubt of their generous and firm support. Incapable of any feelings distinct from those of a citizen, I can assume no style, in regard to them, different from that character; and it is a source of peculiar delight to me, to know,

that while the chief magistrate of the United States acts fully up to this principle, he will require no other guard than what may be derived from their confidence and affection.

JAMES MONROE.

*Baltimore June 2, 1817.*

After this interchange of sentiments and feelings the mayor, in his own and in the behalf of the corporation, cordially invited the president to a public dinner; which he declined, on the ground, that it would not be consistent with his previous arrangements for him to accept of this public manifestation of their regard. The president, in the most feeling manner, expressed the lively sense he entertained of the civility and attention of his fellow citizens, but was compelled, from motives of public concern, to forego the acceptance of their invitation.

#### LOUISIANA.

The district court of the United States, for the district of Louisiana, have discharged the suits and dismissed from bail those who were sued by Mr. Livingston, in New Orleans, for a violation of the alleged exclusive right of Messrs. Fulton and Livingston, to navigate the Mississippi river, with steam boats. The suits were dismissed, and the bail discharged on the ground of a want of jurisdiction in the court. Mr. Livingston has carried the question for decision up to the Supreme Court of the United States.

#### EDITOR'S CABINET.

*News.*—There have been some few arrivals of vessels from Europe during the past and present week, but they bring very little intelligence of any consequence. The queen of England had been slightly indisposed. The speaker of the house of commons had recovered; and the remainder of the session of parliament was expected to be occupied with interesting topics. Col. Harvey, an aide-de-camp of lord Wellington, was to be married to Miss Caton, of Baltimore; and his lordship was in London, to give her away. Such are the items of news in England; and there was less stirring of novelty in France. A disposition to revolution continues to manifest itself in Spain.

*Worms, &c.*—We publish to-day, from a Baltimore print, a dissertation upon the nature, &c. of locusts; and we now know with every degree of certainty that this plague has made, or is about to make, its appearance among our verdure. This, however, seems to be a peculiar season for flies and worms: there is the Hessian fly, the wire worm, the grub worm, and the cut worm, which appear ready to devour up the land. We trust that none of the *knowing ones* have invented any of the accounts of these reptiles with a view of *worming* their new crops into a better price.